

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 EB-11 L-03 COME-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01

AID-20 MC-02 IGA-02 RSR-01 /093 W
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R 232142 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6905

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 1454

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, EC

SUBJECT: HARSAP - SHIP LOAN TO ECUADOR

REF: USCINCSO' S 301728 Z JAN, GUTHRIE- CHAPLIN LETTER,
FEBRUARY 7, 1973

SUMMARY - SHIP LOAN MIGHT BE LONG TERM. ADVANTAGES TO US
ARE ECONOMIC. END SUMMARY

1. LOCAL IAGS REPRESENTATIVE MAJOR R. JARY WHO IS
CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE HARSAP PROGRAM HERE IN
ECUADOR, IS QUITE CERTAIN THAT THE TIME PERIOD INVOLVED
FOR ANY LEASE IS SOLELY DEPENDENT ON THE U. S. THAT IS
TO SAY, THAT THE ECUADOREANS WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE BOAT
FOR A RATHER INDEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME. THE ACTUAL
SURVEY PROJECTS THAT MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN ARE: HARBORS
AND PORTS, FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS; COASTAL WATERS, FIVE TO
SEVEN YEARS; GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, FIVE TO SEVEN YEARS.
THUS, IF PERMITTED, THE ECUADOREANS WOULD LIKELY USE
THE BOAT FOR WHAT CAN BE CONSIDERED AN INDEFINITE PERIOD.

2. THE BENEFITS OF THE PROJECTS ARE MUTUAL IN THAT THE
CHARTS ALLOW MERCHANT SHIPPING TO RECEIVE LOWER INSURANCE
RATES. IN ADDITION, SHIPS ARE ABLE TO EXECUTE FASTER
ENTRIES AND TURN AROUNDS. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
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ALSO PROFITABLY SELLS THE CHARTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. THE BASIC TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT, WHICH WE ARE FORWARDING TO ARA- LA/ EP/ E, PROVIDES THAT THE U. S. WILL SUPPLY TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT ON A LOAN BASIS, BUT ALSO STATES THAT THE ECUADOREANS ARE TO FURNISH THE BOATS. THEY, OF COURSE, ARE NOW REQUESTING THE LOAN OF THE VESSEL SO THAT THEY MAY COMPLY WITH THEIR PORTION OF THE AGREEMENT.

4. THE DAO HAS POINTED OUT THAT JUST ABOUT ANY BOAT CAN BE USED TO CAPTURE A TUNA BOAT. THE NAVY ATTACHE AND MAJOR JARY ARE QUITE CERTAIN THAT THEY CAN OBTAIN A VERBAL COMMITMENT THAT THE VESSEL WOULD NOT BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE AND ARE ALSO OF THE OPINION THAT THEY MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO HAVE SUCH A CONDITION WRITTEN INTO THE AGREEMENT. WE, HOWEVER, WOULD PREFER THAT SUCH A REQUEST NOT BE MADE AS IT COULD EASILY BE CONSTRUED AS A SANCTION BY THE ECUADOREANS. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO AN AGREEMENT THAT THE BOAT IS TO BE USED SOLELY FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS WITHOUT ANY EXPRESS PROHIBITIONS.
BURNS

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